

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. By the present communication, claims 33-35 and 37 have been amended and claims 36 and 47-49 and 54 have been maintained in their previously presented form. Claims 1-32, 38-46 and 50-53 were previously cancelled. Thus, claims 33-37, 47-49 and 54 are pending and under active prosecution.

1-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) An intravascular stent comprising a tubular mesh member, the tubular mesh member having an internal helical formation to induce spiral-flow therethrough, the internal helical formation having a helix angle between 5 and 16 degrees relative to a longitudinal axis of the stent.

34. (Currently Amended) The stent according to claim 33, wherein the tubular mesh member ~~comprises a mesh member that~~ is expansible and is inserted by catheterization in collapsed form and which becomes expanded on release from the catheter, the internal helical formation being attached to an interior portion of the tubular mesh member.

35. (Currently Amended) The stent according to claim 34, wherein the tubular mesh member comprises crisscrossed wires extending helically around the periphery of the stent, and the internal helical formation comprises a helical vane member attached to such wires.

36. (Previously presented) The intravascular stent according to claim 33, wherein the helix angle of the internal helical formation is adjustable.

37. (Currently Amended) The intravascular stent according to claim 33, wherein the internal helical formation comprises:

a rigid support coaxially mounted within the tubular mesh member; and

a spiral flow inducer vane surrounding and extending from the rigid support.

38-46. (Cancelled)

47. (Previously Presented) An intravascular stent comprising:

an expansible tubular mesh member having a collapsed form to be inserted into a vein and an expanded form to be retained within the vein;

the mesh member having at least one vane stationarily attached to an interior thereof and extending helically to induce spiral flow of blood, said at least one vane having a helix angle of between 5 and 16 degrees relative to a longitudinal axis of the mesh member.

48. (Previously Presented) The stent according to claim 47, wherein the mesh member comprises a plurality of wires that extend helically and cross each other to form junctions.

49. (Currently Amended) The stent according to claim 33, wherein the internal helical formation comprises:

a rigid support rod coaxially mounted in the tubular member;

a flexible sleeve within the tubular member and surrounding the support rod;

a flexible helical vane mounted to the sleeve; and

wherein the sleeve is axially contractible relative to the support rod to vary an angle of the vane relative to the support rod.

50.- 53 (Cancelled)

54. (Previously Presented) The intravascular stent according to claim 33, wherein the helix angle is about 16 degrees relative to the longitudinal axis of the tubular member.